

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add claim 41, cancel claim 34, and amend claims 1-33 and 35-40 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising: ~~of establishing a connection in a communication system, the connection involving a mobile station subscribing to a first mobile communications network and roaming in a second mobile communications network, the communication system comprising a first connection management entity provided in association with the first mobile communication network and a second connection management entity provided in association with the second mobile communication network, the method comprising:~~

registering the a roaming mobile station with the a second mobile communications network, the method being used for establishing a connection in a communication system, the connection involving the mobile station subscribing to a first mobile communications network and roaming in the second mobile communications network, the communication system comprising a first connection management entity provided in association with the first mobile communication network and a second connection management entity provided in association with the second mobile communication network;;

registering the roaming mobile station with the second connection management entity;

in response to a request for a connection involving the roaming mobile station, routing signaling that associates with the request to one of the connection management entities;

setting up a communications link between the first and second mobile communications networks via a third communications network by means of the first and second connection management entities based on said signaling associated with the request; **and**

establishing the requested connection by means of the communications link, the first mobile communications network and the second mobile communications network; **and**

receiving the request for connection at a switching center of one of the first and the second mobile communications network, said switching center being configured to signal to the connection management entity provided in association with the same mobile communications network as said switching center in response to receiving the request, and said connection management entity being configured to request from the connection management entity provided in association with the other one of said first and second mobile communications networks for a communications link to be set-up between the first and second mobile communication networks.

2. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the third communications network comprises a packet switched data network.

3. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the packet switched data network is based on the Internet Protocol (IP).
4. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the communications link comprises a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) link.
5. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the packet switched data network is a frame relay network.
6. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the communications link comprises a Voice over frame relay link.
7. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the packet switched data network is a asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network.
8. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the communications link comprises a Voice over asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) link.
9. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
~~the request for connection originates from the roaming mobile station,~~
~~the request is received at a switching center of the second mobile communications~~
~~network,~~

~~in response to receiving the request, the switching center of the second mobile communications network signals to the second connection management entity, and the second connection management entity request from the first connection management entity for a communication link to be set up between the first and second mobile communication network.~~

the roaming mobile station is configured to originate the request for connection, and said switching center is associated with the second mobile communications network.

10. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second connection management entity verifies if the connection is to be routed to the first mobile communications network before requesting for the set-up of the communications link between the first and second mobile communications networks.

11. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the connection is requested by the user of the roaming mobile station by calling to the second connection management entity.

12. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the request for the connection from the roaming mobile station is received at the switching center of the second mobile communications network and automatically signaled from the switching center of the second mobile communications network to the second connection management entity.

13. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
~~the request originates from another party for a connection to the roaming mobile station;~~
~~the request is received at a switching center of the first mobile communications network,~~
~~the switching center of the first mobile communications network signals to the first connection management entity, and~~
~~the first connection management entity request from the second connection management entity for a communication link to be set up between the first and second mobile communication network.~~
another party is configured to originate the request for a connection to the roaming mobile station, and said switching center is associated with the first mobile communications network.

14. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising dropping one or both of the first and second connection management entities from the connection after the connection has been established between the parties.

15. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising storing information regarding at least one connection management entity other than said first connection management entity in the memory means of the mobile station.

16. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising sending information regarding at least one connection management entity other than said first connection management entity to the mobile station.

17. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the information comprises the network address of the said at least one connection management entity for enabling the mobile station to contact said network management entity.

18. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, further including the steps of:

storing in the first connection management entity information regarding one or more terminals to which the user of the mobile station might wish to establish a connection;

forwarding the stored information to the second connection management entity; and

initiating a connection establishment procedure based on the forwarded information.

19 (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the connection establishment is based on a list of names and associated telephone numbers received from the first connection management entity.

20. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the connection establishment is initiated by sending a voice command from the roaming mobile station to the second connection management entity.

21. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising:
determining the mobile communications network which the mobile station has roamed into; and

based on the knowledge of the roamed mobile communications network,
registering the mobile station into the connection management entity associated with the roamed mobile communications network.

22. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the mobile communications network is determined based on an indicator received from the roamed network.

23. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the mobile communications network is determined based on information regarding the geographical location of the mobile station.

24. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the roaming mobile station initiates the connection establishment by calling to the second connection management entity;

the second mobile communications network routes the call to the second connection management entity; and

further information is given to the second connection management entity about the second party.

25. (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the request for a connection is generated by the roaming mobile station such that the request includes information about the second connection management entity and the second party;

the second mobile communications network routes signalling associated with the request to the second connection management entity based on said information about the second connection management entity; and

the second connection management entity signals to the first connection management entity based on said information about the second party.

26. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising:

a first mobile communications network;

a second mobile communications network;

a third communications network;

a register for registering a roaming mobile station with the second mobile communications network, the registration enabling the roaming mobile station to communicate via the second mobile communications network;

a first connection management entity provided in association with the first mobile communication network and interfacing the third communications network;

a second connection management entity is provided in association with the second mobile communication network and interfacing the third communications network;

wherein the first and second connection management entities are arranged to provide a connection for a mobile station subscribing to the first mobile communications network and roaming in the second mobile communications network and registered with said register and also with said second connection management entity by setting up a communications link between the first and second mobile communications networks via the third communications network,
wherein

a switching center of one of the first and second mobile communications network is configured to receive the request for connection, said switching center being configured to signal to the connection management entity provided in association with the same mobile communications network as said switching center in response to receiving the request, and said connection management entity being configured to request from the connection management entity provided in association with the other one of said first and second mobile communications networks for a communications link to be set-up between the first and second mobile communication networks.

27. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the third communications network comprises a packet switched data network.

28. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the packet switched data network is based on the Internet Protocol (IP).

29. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 28, wherein the communications link comprises a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) link.

30. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the packet switched data network is a frame relay network.

31. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 30, wherein the communications link comprises a Voice over frame relay link.

32. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the packet switched data network is a asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network.

33. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 32, wherein the communications link comprises a Voice over asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) link.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 26, comprising:

storage means in the first connection management entity for storing information regarding one or more terminals to which the user of the roaming mobile station might wish to establish a connection; and

means for forwarding the stored information to the second connection management entity, whereby a connection establishment procedure may be initiated at the second network based on the forwarded information.

36. (Currently Amended) The A communication system as claimed in claim 35, wherein the information comprises a list of names and associated telephone numbers.

37. (Currently Amended) A mobile station, configured to: subscribing to a first mobile communication network and enabled to roam in a second mobile communication network, comprising means for converting a destination party number into a number of a connection management entity provided in association with the second mobile communication network
register with a second mobile communications network and to register with a connection management entity, the mobile station being used to subscribe to a first mobile communication network and being enabled to roam in a second mobile communication network, comprising means for converting a destination party number into a number of a connection management entity provided in association with the second mobile communication network,
said connection management entity interfacing a third communications network and arranged to provide a communications link between the first and

second mobile communications networks via the third communications network such that the normal call routing between the first and second mobile communication networks is bypassed.

38. (Currently Amended) The A mobile station as claimed in claim 37, comprising storage means for storing information regarding at least one connection management entity other than a connection management entity of the first mobile communication network.

39. (Currently Amended) The A mobile station as claimed in claim 38, wherein the information comprises the network address of the said at least one connection management entity for enabling the mobile station to contact said network management entity.

40. (Currently Amended) A connection management entity for a mobile communications network, the connection management entity being arranged to register a mobile station roaming with, and registered with, the mobile communications network and to communicate with another connection management entity provided in association with a second mobile communication network via a third communications network, the connection management entity being arranged to provide a connection for the roaming

mobile station by means of a communications link set-up between the first and second mobile communications networks via the third communications network.

41. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

registering means for registering a roaming mobile station with a second mobile communications network, the method being used for establishing a connection in a communication system, the connection involving the mobile station subscribing to a first mobile communications network and roaming in the second mobile communications network, the communication system comprising a first connection management entity provided in association with the first mobile communication network and a second connection management entity provided in association with the second mobile communication network;;

registering means for registering the roaming mobile station with the second connection management entity;

routing means, in response to a request for a connection involving the roaming mobile station, for routing signaling that associates with the request to one of the connection management entities;

setting means for setting up a communications link between the first and second mobile communications networks via a third communications network by

means of the first and second connection management entities based on said signaling associated with the request;

establishing means for establishing the requested connection by means of the communications link, the first mobile communications network and the second mobile communications network; and

receiving means for receiving the request for connection at a switching center of one of the first and the second mobile communications network, said switching center being configured to signal to the connection management entity provided in association with the same mobile communications network as said switching center in response to receiving the request, and said connection management entity being configured to request from the connection management entity provided in association with the other one of said first and second mobile communications networks for a communications link to be set-up between the first and second mobile communication networks.